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STEEL & MINES DEPARTMENT

NOTIFICATION

The 24th April, 2023

No.4040—SM-MC3-ARFA-0003/2023/SM.— In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 15 of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (67 of 1957) the Government of Odisha hereby makes the following rules further to amend the Odisha Specified Minor Mineral Auction Rules, 2019, namely: —

1. (1) These rules may be called the Odisha Specified Minor Minerals Auction (Amendment) Rules, 2023.

(2) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the *Odisha Gazette*.

2. In the Odisha Specified Minor Minerals Auction Rules, 2019, (hereinafter referred to as the said rules), in rule 7, in sub-rule (2), the following sub-rule shall be substituted, namely :—

(2) The tender document issued by the Government shall, inter alia, contain;—

- (a) geological report specifying particulars and estimated quantities of all minerals discovered in the area;
- (b) survey details of the area identified and demarcated using total station and differential global positioning system divided into forest land, land owned by the Government, and land not owned by the Government;
- (c) ***
- (d) the reserve price expressed as the minimum percentage of the value of mineral dispatched which is the minimum amount of additional charge for auction as defined in the Odisha Minor Minerals Concession Rules, 2016; and
- (e) Bid Security amount as decided by the Government. Bid Security, in form of bank guarantee, equivalent to 0.1% of Value of Estimated Mineral Resource subject to a maximum of ten crore rupees.

3. In the said rules, in rule 8,—

- (i) for sub-rule (2), the following sub-rule shall be substituted, namely :—

“(2) Upon receipt of the first instalment of the upfront payment, the Government shall issue a letter of intent to the successful bidder within fifteen days of receipt of first instalment of upfront payment.”

- (ii) after sub-rule (3), the following sub-rule shall be inserted, namely:—

“(3A) The successful bidder shall sign a mine development and production agreement with the State Government upon fulfilment of conditions mentioned in sub-rule (3).”

4. In the said rules, in rule 12, —

- (i) for sub-rule (1), the following sub-rule shall be substituted, namely :—

“(1) Upon completion of the auction process, the Government shall issue a letter of intent to the successful bidder within fifteen days of receipt of his acceptance of the terms and conditions and security deposit.”

- (ii) for sub-rule (6), the following sub-rule shall be substituted, namely :—

“(6) On satisfying all the conditions as specified in the letter of intent and on obtaining all the consents, approvals, permits, no-objection and the like as may be required under applicable laws for commencement of mining operations, the successful bidder shall sign a mine development and production agreement with the State Government, and the holder of prospecting license-*cum*-mining lease shall be granted the mining lease:

Provided that, all such compliances, consents, approvals, permits, non objection and the like have been obtained within a period of three years from the date of execution of prospecting license-*cum*-mining lease, or such further period not exceeding a total period of two years as may be allowed by the Government, if the delay in obtaining these has occurred due to reasons beyond the control of the licensee.”

By Order of the Governor

DEORANJAN KUMAR SINGH

Additional Chief Secretary to Government